



GLEN MURRAY, MPP

Toronto Centre

Improving Access To Health Care For First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples Living in the GTA

McGuinty Government Investing In Anishnawbe Health Toronto

August 30, 2011

Ontario is improving access to community health care for First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples living in the GTA by investing in the Anishnawbe Health Toronto Centre.

The project will examine ways to better serve the 85,000 aboriginal men, women and children living in the GTA. Anishnawbe Health Toronto will serve its catchment population of First Nations and Aboriginal peoples by providing health promotion and primary health care programs and services from a purpose-built facility. AHT is an accredited community health centre funded through the Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network, mandated by the Aboriginal Community of the Greater Toronto Area to deliver primary health care and traditional healing services

Anishnawbe Health will begin the planning and design project in 2011. The implementation date will be determined through the planning and design process.

The investment in Anishnawbe Health Toronto is part of the McGuinty government's *Building Together* long-term infrastructure plan.

Through [*Building Together*](#), the government is investing in modern and efficient hospitals and healthcare settings that support the needs of our aging and diversifying population. Ontario will continue to make significant investments in public infrastructure over the next decade to improve the quality of life for families.

QUOTES

"I am very proud that the McGuinty government is moving forward on this important project with a planning and design grant. Community Health Centres are about improving access to family health care for individuals, families and communities and the Aboriginal community in Toronto has a pressing need. This investment is a first step towards ensuring they get full access to all the health care services they require."

- Glen Murray, MPP Toronto Centre

“Community Health Centres play a vital role in helping some of Ontario’s most vulnerable patients get the care they need. I’m proud to approve this planning and design grant for Anishnawbe Health to begin the process of ensuring improved access to high quality health care and services for First Nations and Aboriginal Peoples in Toronto.”

- Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“Our *Building Together* infrastructure plan is our road map. We know that health infrastructure, such as this new Community Health Centre building, is worth investing in and maintaining for the good of everyone.”

- Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Infrastructure

“Today’s announcement represents a significant step towards the achievement of a long- held dream of the First Nations and Aboriginal people of Toronto. Our dream is the building of a new home for Anishnawbe Health Toronto. A new home where the caring for the health and well-being of our people will be optimized through the integration of western health care modalities with our traditional approaches to health care and healing. A home where a Centre of Excellence will emerge that will continue to address the burden of health challenges that our people carry.

This planning and design grant is a welcome acknowledgement of our people’s need and we thank Premier Dalton McGuinty, the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister, MOHLTC, and the Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of Research & Innovation.”

- Jacques Huot, President Anishnawbe Health Toronto

“Anishnawbe Health Toronto has a great history of providing culturally respectful, timely and quality care to Aboriginal people in Toronto. They have worked hard over the years to continually improve the conditions under which their care is delivered and I commend them for their great work. This investment allows Anishnawbe Health Toronto to begin the first step to creating a much needed new site that is appropriate for the care they deliver, is culturally respectful and meets the needs of the community.”

- Camille Orridge, CEO, Toronto Central LHIN

QUICK FACTS

- The province is investing \$1,485,000 to plan and design of the Anishnawbe Health Toronto Centre.
- The McGuinty government has invested in Ontario’s largest-ever Community Health Centre expansion in Ontario – adding 21 centres and 28 satellite locations.
- Community Health Centres are non-profit organizations that offer interdisciplinary health care programs and services to priority populations that face barriers to accessing health care.
- Staff at Community Health Centres can include: doctors, nurse practitioners, a social worker, chiropodists, counsellors, community workers, dieticians and other health educators.

LEARN MORE

Read more about the [Building Together](#) infrastructure plan.

Find out more about [Community Health Centres](#).